

XXXIX.—*Field-notes on Birds obtained or observed at Bloemfontein, O.R.C., and at Ingogo, Natal, in 1901 and 1902.*
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THE birds mentioned in the following list were obtained or observed by me at Bloemfontein, in the Orange-River Colony, and at Ingogo, in Natal, in 1901 and 1902. I was at Bloemfontein from April to December 1901—that is, through the whole of the winter and the first two summer months of that year—and at Ingogo, in Natal, from December 1901 to June 1902, being the latter half of the summer and the first two months of the winter.

Ingogo is on the railway about fourteen miles north of Newcastle, and some 4000 feet above the sea-level. Some of the surrounding hills reach almost 7000 feet in altitude.

Eighty-five of the species mentioned were observed only at Bloemfontein and forty-six only at Ingogo, while forty-four were found in both these places.

I have included under each locality the country that could be covered in a day's ride; this brings Volksrust under Ingogo and the Modder Bush under Bloemfontein. The construction of large dams, the irrigation of arable plots, and the planting of shelter-belts and orchards have probably added to the avifauna of Bloemfontein a variety of species which it did not originally possess. Owing to my spare time at Ingogo being limited, I fear that the list of birds found there is very incomplete.

The numbers in brackets following the names refer to the index-numbers in the first volume of Captain G. E. Shelley's 'Birds of Africa.' I take this opportunity of expressing to Captain Shelley my most grateful thanks for his kindness in assisting me to identify my specimens.

1. *NECTARINIA FAMOSA.* (7.)

Nectarinia famosa Stark, Fauna of S. A., Birds, i. p. 276.

Ingogo. This is a common bird; it frequents the flowers on the open grass-slopes of the mountains round Ingogo.

2. *ZOSTEROPS PALLIDA.* (98.)

Bloemfontein. Local. Very common on one farm, but

not observed elsewhere. Legs brownish; bill dark horn-coloured; iris yellowish hazel.

3. *PARUS AFER*. (124.)

Bloemfontein. Met with in pairs on three different farms, but apparently not abundant. The specimens appear to belong to the form called *Parus intermedius* (Shelley, B. Afr. ii. p. 242).

4. *ÆGITHALUS CAPENSIS*. (127.)

Bloemfontein. Seen in small parties on two or three occasions. Bill dark horn-coloured; feet blue-grey; iris black.

5. *PARISOMA SUBCÆRULEUM*. (134.)

Bloemfontein. Abundant in the Modder Bush, but I saw it nowhere else. It sings prettily and constantly. Bill and legs black; iris very light sea-green.

6. *MOTACILLA CAPENSIS*. (145.)

Bloemfontein. Common and very tame. Iris dark brown; bill and legs black.

7. *ANTHUS RUFULUS*. (165.)

Bloemfontein. Iris brown; legs dusky flesh-coloured; bill horn-coloured, shading to flesh-coloured at the base of the lower mandible. Abundant. Met with singly or in small parties.

8. *ANTHUS VAALENSIS*.

Anthus vaalensis Shelley, B. Afr. ii. p. 311.

Bloemfontein. Iris brown; feet dusky flesh-coloured; bill horn-coloured, paler below. Abundant, but generally met with singly.

9. *MACRONYX CAPENSIS*. (171.)

At Bloemfontein this species was uncommon, I doubt whether I saw more than six specimens. At Ingogo it was extremely abundant.

10. *CERTHILAUDA ALBOFASCIATA*. (177.)

Certhilauda albofasciata Shelley, B. Afr. iii. p. 22.

Very common on the veldt round Bloemfontein, but seldom seen on the kopjes. I found half-grown young in April and May, and several nests with eggs in August and

again in October, so that it probably rears several broods in the year. The young when half-grown leave the nest and run after their parents; the bill at that stage is very small, and shews no sign of its future development.

The nests of this species are small, and are placed among the grass on the level ground. The eggs are two or three in number; they are speckled with buff and grey all over, but most thickly near the larger end, where the spots form a zone.

11. *CERTHILAUDA SEMITORQUATA*. (180.)

Certhilauda semitorquata Shelley, B. Afr. iii. p. 25.

Bloemfontein and Ingogo. This bird is found on the tops of the kopjes, generally in pairs. The note is a plaintive whistle. I took a nest and two eggs on Oct. 6th. The nest was placed in a tuft of grass between stones on the top of a kopje. The eggs were stone-coloured, faintly but profusely marked with blotches of very light brown and pale grey.

12. *MIRAFRA RUFPILEA*. (195.)

Bloemfontein. Bill horn-coloured above, fleshy below; legs fleshy; iris bright hazel-brown. Common on the veldt, especially in the longer grass. It rises some twenty feet into the air with a curious rattle of the wings; it then extends them and descends slowly with a shrill whistle. This bird sometimes conceals itself in the grass, and it is very difficult on such occasions to flush it again.

13. *MIRAFRA AFRICANA*. (206.)

Bloemfontein. Iris hazel-brown; legs flesh-coloured; bill—upper mandible horn-coloured, lower flesh-coloured. This Lark is very loth to fly, and generally runs when chased. In winter the few seen were generally single specimens.

14. *PYRRHULAUDA AUSTRALIS*. (229.)

Bloemfontein. Male: iris crimson; bill whitish grey. On one occasion only I saw about twenty of these birds in a flock on the veldt, and obtained a single specimen.

15. *PYRRHULAUDA VERTICALIS*. (232.)

Bloemfontein. Iris bright hazel-brown; bill greyish white;

legs pale flesh-coloured. This bird was common in large flocks on the veldt in winter ; there were still large flocks about in October.

16. *CALENDULA CRASSIROSTRIS*. (223.)

Bloemfontein. Iris brown ; feet dull flesh-coloured ; bill horn-coloured above, pinkish below. This bird was a frequent visitor to our horse-lines.

17. *TEPHROCORYS CINEREA*. (185.)

Bloemfontein. This was the commonest Lark near Bloemfontein, and resorted to the burnt ground or the roadsides. It is often killed by striking the telegraph-wires ; one day eighteen were found lying dead close together under them. Early in October I found a nest with two eggs in it on the bare ground. A little heap of dry clay-chips had been collected by the old birds, and the centre of it was hollowed out and lined.

18. *FRINGILLARIA CAPENSIS*. (244.)

Bloemfontein. Common among the kopjes. I found a nest with young in it placed on the ground among some stones.

19. *FRINGILLARIA TAHAPISI*. (246.)

Bloemfontein. Iris dark brown ; legs pale brownish flesh-coloured ; bill—upper mandible horn-coloured in some specimens (probably male), lower mandible yellow, in others (probably female) lower mandible dull flesh-coloured. Very local at Bloemfontein ; I found it only on one kopje, where, however, it was abundant. It was quite common at Ingogo.

20. *FRINGILLARIA IMPETUANI*. (245.)

Bloemfontein. The only specimen of this bird seen was on the outskirts of the Modder Bush.

21. *SERINUS CANICOLLIS*. (280.)

Ingogo.

22. *SERINUS MARSHALLI*.

Serinus marshalli Shelley, B. Afr. iii. p. 199.

Bloemfontein. Iris brown ; legs dark horn-coloured ; bill horn-coloured above, shading to flesh-coloured below. Very common.

23. *SERINUS ANGOLENSIS.* (302.)

Bloemfontein. Iris dark brown; beak and legs horn-coloured. Fairly common. Habits similar to those of the last-named.

24. *PASSER ARCUATUS.* (269.)

Bloemfontein and Ingogo.

25. *AMADINA ERYTHROCEPHALA.* (361.)

Seen on two occasions in the town of Bloemfontein, but not observed elsewhere.

26. *VIDUA PRINCIPALIS.* (312.)

Very common at Ingogo and occasionally seen at Bloemfontein. The young of the year have a white fleshy border to the gape of the bill.

27. *COLIOPASSER PROCNE.* (317.)

Common in damp places at Bloemfontein and very common at Ingogo. The summer-plumage was nearly complete by the end of October.

28. *COLIOPASSER ARDENS.* (318.)

In Ingogo this bird is found among the tall reeds by the banks of the rivers, where it is fairly common in small flocks.

29. *UROBRACHYA AXILLARIS.* (328.)

At Ingogo I saw a few males of this species in adult summer-plumage in January; they were very shy, restless, and pugnacious, and were probably guarding their nests. They frequented damp places.

30. *PYROMELANA MINOR.* (335.)

Observed high up on the slopes of the mountains above Ingogo.

31. *PYROMELANA TAHA.* (349.)

Found in considerable numbers in the reed-beds near Volksrust, Ingogo. My brother (G. V. Clarke, D.S.O., 18th Hussars) informs me that he saw nests of this species built among the grass near the swamps, and not among the reeds.

32. PYROMELANA ORYX. (343.)

Common at Ingogo and Bloemfontein, nesting in large colonies in the reeds. At Bloemfontein there were also a few nests in the young poplar trees.

33. QUELEA QUELEA. (350.)

Common in the Modder Bush in small flocks. In winter the bill is crimson, the iris brown, and the legs are salmon-coloured.

34. ORTYGOSPIZA POLYZONA. (389.)

Abundant at Ingogo.

35. SPOROPIPES SQUAMIFRONS. (452.)

Very common in the Modder Bush in small flocks.

36. ESTRILDA ASTRILD. (399.)

Common at Ingogo in small flocks.

37. ESTRILDA SUBFLAVA. (404.)

Common along the rivers at Ingogo; always in small flocks. I never saw it elsewhere. G. V. Clarke informs me that he found its eggs in the deserted nests of *Pyromelana oryx*, and took three clutches, much incubated, in a small reed-bed near Bronker's Spruit.

38. PLOCEPASSER MAHALI. (468.)

Common in thorn-scrub, especially near the Modder River. The call-notes and cackling of the flocks are very pretty. Iris reddish brown; bill dark horn-coloured; feet pale greyish flesh-coloured.

39. XANTHOPHILUS OLIVACEUS. (531.)

Sitagra capensis caffra Stark, Fauna of S. A., Birds, i. p. 70.
Abundant at Ingogo.

40. HYPHANTORNIS VELATUS. (549.)

Bloemfontein. Abundant. In winter the iris is dark brown, the bill horn-coloured (paler below), the legs horn-coloured. In summer the iris of the male is golden orange, the bill black, and the legs dark flesh-coloured. This bird changes into summer-plumage about Sept. 1st. I have found eggs on Sept. 7th. It nests in the willows over the water, but also

in the fruit-trees. It cuts off all the leaves and twigs near its nest, except those by which the structure hangs. This bird is much disliked by the farmers, as it is so destructive to the fruit-trees. The eggs vary greatly in colour.

41. *LAMPROCOLIUS PHENICOPTERUS*. (598.)

Bloemfontein. Common. Iris golden yellow; feet and bill black.

42. *SPREO BICOLOR*. (608.)

Bloemfontein. Common. Nesting in the banks of the larger spruits. Iris straw-yellow; feet black; bill brownish black; base of lower mandible and cere at gape yellow.

43. *AMYDRUS MORIO*. (616.)

Bloemfontein and Ingogo. A small flock of these birds was met with twice near Bloemfontein; at Ingogo they were very abundant. Bill and feet black; iris dark brown.

44. *DILOPHUS CARUNCULATUS*. (630.)

Bloemfontein, common. I saw no specimens bearing wattles.

45. *BUPHAGA ERYTHORHYNCHA*. (577.)

At Ingogo a pair or two of this Oxpecker were generally to be seen at the same place, perched on the ponies or cattle while grazing.

46. *CORVUS CAPENSIS*. (639.)

I often saw a pair of these Crows at Ingogo, and once four together. They frequented the grassy slopes of the mountains, and were commonly seen perched on trees or bushes. I never saw them at carrion.

47. *DICRURUS AFER*. (646.)

Common in the Modder Bush and at Bloemfontein, but very shy, probably because they are frequently pursued by farmers on account of their killing the bees.

48. *FISCUS COLLARIS*. (693.)

Bloemfontein and Ingogo. I shot one in the act of carrying off a Cape Robin (*Cossypha caffra*). The specimens procured were all males.

49. *FISCUS SUBCORONATUS*. (694.)

At Bloemfontein the two supposed species of *Fiscus* interbreed. I was unable to obtain a male *F. subcoronatus* or a female *F. collaris*. I found a nest in October: the male, which I shot, was *F. collaris*, and the female *F. subcoronatus*. I was very close to the latter and saw her distinctly, but failed to kill her.

50. *ENNEOCTONUS COLLURIO*. (709.)

I saw two or three of these Shrikes at Ingogo. A fine male which I shot was accidentally destroyed.

51. *PELICINIUS GUTTURALIS*. (762.)

Common at Bloemfontein, where it nests in low bushes.

52. *PYCNONOTUS LAYARDI*. (830.)

Common at Ingogo. Iris dark brown; bill black; legs dark brown.

53. *PYCNONOTUS NIGRICANS*. (831.)

Bloemfontein, very common. Bill and feet black; iris very dark brown; a thick orange cere round the eye.

54. *SYLVIELLA RUFESCENS*. (969.)

Bloemfontein. A friend shot and brought me a pair of these birds; I never met with them alive.

55. *APALIS SCITA*. (985.)

Two specimens of this species were seen near Bloemfontein; they appear to have much the habits of our Chiffchaff when hunting for food.

56. *EREMOMELA FLAVIVENTRIS*. (933.)

I saw a few specimens of this bird hunting among some low bushes in the open veldt near Bloemfontein, and obtained one.

57. *PRINIA HYPOXANTHA*. (1021.)

Common near Ingogo, in the kloofs of the Drakensberg, in small parties. Iris hazel; bill black; legs flesh-coloured.

58. *PRINIA FLAVICANS*. (1023.)

Bloemfontein. Iris light hazel; feet flesh-coloured; bill horn-coloured. Commonly seen hunting for food, wherever

low scrub or bushes were to be found. On 26th Oct., 1901, I discovered a nest of this bird in a low bush by the Modder. It was pear-shaped and closely woven, with a small entrance-hole about two inches from the top; it contained five eggs, which were bluish white, with bold spots of dark brown.

59. *SPILOPTILA OCLARIA.* (1026.)

Occasionally seen in dwarf bushes on the veldt near Bloemfontein. Iris hazel; legs brownish flesh-coloured; bill black.

60. *CISTICOLA CURSITANS.* (1027.)

Common at Bloemfontein and Ingogo, in the open veldt.

61. *CISTICOLA TINNIENS.* (1033.)

One pair was obtained at Bloemfontein; it was very common at Ingogo, on the river-banks and in marshy places.

62. *SPHENGÆACUS NATALENSIS.* (1072.)

Not uncommon among rank herbage at Ingogo, but of skulking habit and hard to see.

63. *ACROCEPHALUS BÆTICATUS.* (1107.)

Common in the reeds on the river near Ingogo. Iris dark brown; legs and feet grey, tinged with olive; lower mandible flesh-coloured, upper horn-coloured.

64. *ERYTHROPYGIA PÆNA.* (1133.)

Abundant in the bush by the Modder River.

65. *AËDONOPSIS CORYPHÆA.* (1146.)

Not uncommon at Bloemfontein in the scrub on the kopjes. Iris brown; bill and feet black.

66. *COSSYPHA CAFFRA.* (1165.)

Common at Bloemfontein, and in habits very similar to the English Robin.

67. *PRATINCOLA TORQUATA.* (1192.)

Common at Bloemfontein and Ingogo, perching mostly on the tallest grass-stems, &c. I frequently observed the Fiskal Shrike pursuing this bird.

68. TARSIGER SILENS. (1202.)

Rather local near Bloemfontein, but very abundant where found. Bill and feet black; iris dark brown. This bird selects for its perch the top of a bush or some other commanding position. It bears a close resemblance to the Fiskal Shrike (*Fiscus collaris*), and in fact at a little distance is not easily distinguishable from that bird.

69. TURDUS LITSITSIRUPA. (1215.)

The only specimen obtained at Bloemfontein was alone and very tame.

70. TURDUS CABANISI. (1232.)

Locally common at Bloemfontein, and resembling our Blackbird in habits.

71. MONTICOLA RUPESTRIS. (1240.)

Abundant in the cliffs near Ingogo. Unless killed outright it is difficult to obtain, and unluckily one or two males were lost, having escaped into holes after being wounded.

72. MONTICOLA EXPLORATOR. (1242.)

This Rock-Thrush is not uncommon in winter on the kopjes near Bloemfontein, where boulders crop out through the grass, and is occasionally also found where the ant-hills are thick on the veldt. The blue in my specimens faded after death.

73. SAXICOLA SINUATA. (1247.)

This is the commonest and the tamest of the Chats round Bloemfontein. I found a nest with young birds under a stone on a kopje in October.

74. SAXICOLA PILEATA. (1254.)

Bloemfontein. This Chat is common where the veldt is grazed short. It perches on the ant-hills, and sings on the wing. It is much attracted by newly turned-up earth. Iris, bill, and legs black.

75. SAXICOLA GALTONI. (1248.)

At Bloemfontein this Chat occurs among the houses and in the kopjes, as well as in the Modder Bush. Iris, bill, and legs black.

76. *SAXICOLA MONTICOLA.* (1276.)

Common at Bloemfontein and Ingogo. I found two or three nests—one in the wall of a fort, another under a boulder on a kopje. The grey form was uncommon at Ingogo. At Bloemfontein some of the grey birds had white shoulder-patches, others had not. I saw one dark male there with a white head. This is a strong-flying and active bird.

77. *MYRMECOCICHLA BIFASCIATA.* (1279.)

This bird seems to resemble our Whinchat in its habits, and to prefer perching on bushes. It is common on the lower slopes of Inkwelo and Majuba.

78. *MYRMECOCICHLA FORMICIVORA.* (1281.)

Bloemfontein and Ingogo. This Chat is very common round Bloemfontein wherever there are ant-hills. The cock sings well; he has also a habit of hovering in the air. Although often scattered about, these birds seem to keep in family parties during the winter, and when a broken ant-hill has been found they quickly unite. I have seen them apparently shew considerable sympathy or curiosity when one of their party was wounded. They perch on bushes and buildings as well as on ant-hills; I have seen one singing on the sail of a windmill and frequently on a tent-pole. They nest in holes, apparently excavated by themselves to a depth of four or five feet. I took a nest with four hard-set eggs on October 1st. The eggs are white.

79. *PACHYPRORA CAPENSIS.* (1360.)

I obtained specimens of this bird in dense bush in a kloof near Majuba Hill.

80. *COTILE CINCTA.* (1400.)

Bloemfontein. This species nests in single pairs in the banks of the spruits. I opened one or two holes and found that the eggs had not been laid on Nov. 13th. This is a bird of rather heavy flight for a Swallow.

81. *COTILE PALUDICOLA.* (1402.)

Locally abundant at Bloemfontein in winter.

82. *PTYONOPROGNE FULIGULA*. (1407.)

Ingogo. I believe that I saw this bird also at Bloemfontein, breeding in the crags of the Drakensberg.

83. *HIRUNDO RUSTICA*. (1413.)

At Ingogo the Chimney-Swallow was common in summer, but did not nest. In March the numbers seemed to increase greatly; the weight of the flocks bent down our field-telephone wires.

84. *HIRUNDO ALBIGULARIS*. (1418.)

Bloemfontein, and also observed at Ingogo. Bill and feet black; iris dark brown.

This Swallow is usually seen about the farmhouses. I saw one nest on a bracket against the wall of a verandah.

85. *HIRUNDO CUCULLATA*. (1427.)

I first noticed this Swallow at Bloemfontein in the middle of October; but it was never so abundant there as *H. albigularis*. At Ingogo it was common. I found a nest attached to the roof of a coal-heading on the river-bank.

86. *PETROCHELIDON SPILODERA*. (1438.)

Abundant at Bloemfontein and Ingogo. The nests are arranged in tiers, the whole colony resembling a gigantic piece of honeycomb. I saw some colonies on buildings in Bloemfontein, others on the perpendicular face of a bank overhanging a little stream, and very frequently on the railway-bridges.

87. *CYPSELUS BARBATUS*. (1464.)

Cypselus barbatus Sel. & Stark, Fauna of S. A., Birds, iii. p. 25.

This Swift appears in numbers at Bloemfontein at the end of September. The specimens killed were very fat and were feeding on winged ants.

88. *CYPSELUS CAFFER*. (1469.)

Bloemfontein. This Swift breeds in the farm-buildings under the eaves, and in holes in walls. I obtained specimens on September 16th.

89. *CYPSELUS AFRICANUS*. (1468.)

First seen on the Modder at the end of August. The

specimens shot in October were extraordinarily fat; they were feeding on winged ants in company with *C. barbatus*.

90. *CAPRIMULGUS RUIGENA*. (1476.)

Bloemfontein and Ingogo. Iris dark brown; bill horn-coloured; feet dusky flesh-coloured.

91. *COSMETORNIS VEXILLARIUS*. (1497.)

I obtained a damaged skin of this Goatsucker at Ingogo from a platelayer, who had killed it there two or three months before. "No one in the neighbourhood had ever seen the bird before," he told me.

92. *CORACIAS GARRULUS*. (1512.)

Uncommon. A male specimen was killed at Ingogo on March 1st.

93. *MEROPS APIASTER*. (1536.)

Common at Bloemfontein, where it appeared about Sept. 20th. I observed some evidently breeding early in November. I saw no Bee-eaters in Natal.

94. *UPUPA AFRICANA*. (1550.)

Common in the thickets near water at Bloemfontein.

95. *RHINOPOMASTUS CYANOMELAS*. (1559.)

Bloemfontein. Common in the mimosa-bush along the Modder River. Bill black; gape yellow; iris dark brown-black; legs dark brown-black.

96. *CERYLE RUDIS*. (1599.)

Common at Bloemfontein and Ingogo. This bird fishes from the wing, hovering over the water to find its prey and then plunging in to secure it.

97. *CERYLE MAXIMA*. (1600.)

Bloemfontein. One of these Kingfishers used to arrive regularly at a dam near Bloemfontein as the light was failing. I have seen it on its way there passing over the veldt at a height considerably above gunshot. I do not know whether this species is supposed to be crepuscular.

98. *CORYTHORNIS CYANOSTIGMA*. (1606.)

This bird was more frequently seen by the mountain-

streams near Ingogo than at the dams of Bloemfontein. When pursued it will sometimes hide in the reeds.

99. *COLIUS ERYTHROMELON*. (1638.)

Iris dark brown; eyelid grey with a red rim; bare skin on the face coral-red; base of the bill deep pink, tip black; feet deep pink, nails black.

About September several flocks of these birds appeared near Bloemfontein and stayed for about a month. They fed on the leaves and berries of a bush, the stone in the berry, larger than a haw, being often swallowed. Their flight is rapid, and the flocks move in close order. A farmer called this and the next species "Parrots," and complained of their destructiveness in his garden. They were very wild: one flock appeared to contain about forty birds; this was an unusually large number.

100. *COLIUS CAPENSIS*. (1629.)

Not rare at Bloemfontein, commoner by the Modder River; always in small flocks. Of weak flight and easy of approach. Bill bluish white with a black tip to the upper mandible; iris dark grey; legs coral-red.

101. *COCCYSTES JACOBINUS*. (1693.)

Only seen on one occasion in the Modder Bush.

102. *COCCYSTES SERRATUS*. (1697.)

A pair of these Cuckoos was seen in some thorn-bushes on the banks of a stream near Bloemfontein. I unfortunately failed to shoot the cock, but obtained the hen.

103. *CUCULUS GULARIS*. (1701.)

Obtained in the Modder Bush. Iris yellow; legs yellow; skin round the eye yellow; bill at the base orange with a horny tip. Seen twice near Bloemfontein.

104. *CHRYSOCOCCYX SMARAGDINEUS*. (1709.)

A pair of these birds were seen among some thorn-trees near Bloemfontein.

105. *CHRYSOCOCCYX CUPREUS*. (1712.)

Bloemfontein. Bill dark horn-coloured; iris scarlet; rim of eye scarlet; legs dark grey. Also seen in the Modder Bush.

106. TRICHOLEMA LEUCOMELAS. (1750.)

The note of this bird is like the creaking of a door. It moves among the branches like a Titmouse. The stomach of one shot contained pomegranate and other seeds.

107. GEOCOLAPTES OLIVACEUS. (1802.)

Only one family party was seen at Bloemfontein, but at Ingogo this Woodpecker was abundant. I saw a pair settle on some bushes; they perched on the topmost twigs. Iris reddish straw-coloured; legs dusky flesh-coloured; bill black.

108. COLUMBA PLEONOTA. (1860.)

I saw this Pigeon near Bloemfontein only on the high kopjes, but at Ingogo it was very common, and the flocks which came to feed on the grain scattered where convoys had camped afforded us good shooting and excellent pies. Bill horn-coloured; gape and bare space by the eye rosy crimson; iris pale yellow; feet rosy, nails horn-coloured.

109. TURTUR CAPICOLA. (1883.)

Very common at Bloemfontein and Ingogo; it ranged further up the kloofs, kopjes, and wild ground than *T. senegalensis*, though it is also abundant at lower elevations.

110. TURTUR SENEGALENSIS. (1887.)

Very common at Bloemfontein wherever bushes and cultivated ground are found together; occurs very sparingly at Ingogo.

111. CENA CAPENSIS. (1897.)

Very common at Bloemfontein and Ingogo; frequently seen feeding on spilled grain in our horse-lines. It nests on the ground among the rocks or very low down in the bushes on the kopjes.

112. STRIX FLAMMEA. (1937.)

I saw only one pair of this Owl, which came out of a cave in a krantz at Bloemfontein.

113. STRIX CAPENSIS. (1939.)

The only pair seen rose from some long rough grass at Ingogo.

114. *BUBO MACULOSUS*. (1965.)

Common at Bloemfontein and Ingogo. This Owl spends the day either in a tree or in the long grass. There was a nest under a big stone in a kopje near Bloemfontein with three young in it, one of which was taken and reared, but eventually escaped.

115. *FALCO MINOR*. (1977.)

Common at Ingogo. Once, when I was lost in the mist on the top of Inkwelo, I saw several of these Falcons come to roost in the evening, passing quite close to me. These birds will follow pointers when working for Quail. I have seen this myself, and was told that it was their usual custom.

116. *FALCO BIARMICUS*. (1981.)

Bloemfontein. A pair of these Falcons mobbed me on Sept. 29th near a krantz, where they were probably nesting.

117. *TINNUNCULUS RUPICOLA*. (1995.)

Common at Bloemfontein and Ingogo. The crop of one specimen that I shot was full of ants.

118. *TINNUNCULUS RUPICOLIDES*. (1996.)

Bloemfontein, but not so common as the last species; it keeps more exclusively to the open veldt. A nest with eggs was found in a low thorn-tree on Oct. 16th, and the female was obtained.

119. *ELANUS CÆRULEUS*. (2009.)

Common in summer at Bloemfontein and Ingogo.

120. *AQUILA RAPAX*. (2022.)

Only one specimen, shot at Bloemfontein, was observed.

121. *NISAËTUS SPILOGASTER*. (2026.)

Ingogo. My servant, who skinned this bird, told me that its crop was full of grasshoppers. Bill horn-coloured, base greenish yellow; feet yellow.

122. *BUTEO JAKAL*. (2031.)

This is a common bird at Ingogo, frequently to be seen perched on the telegraph-posts.

123. *BUTEO DESERTORUM.* (2034.)

A single specimen was obtained at Ingogo. Mr. W. L. Selater (in the 'Fauna of Africa,' Birds, iii. p. 334) says "not hitherto noticed in Natal." Iris dark brown; cere and legs yellow. I believe that I saw several pairs near Bloemfontein.

124. *CIRCUS MACRURUS.* (2076.)

Ingogo. I was not able to obtain an adult male of this Harrier—it is very wary. A young bird which I shot had grasshoppers in its crop.

125. *CIRCUS PYGARGUS.* (2077.)

This is apparently an abundant summer visitor at Bloemfontein. The crop of a female which I shot contained lizards.

126. *SECRETARIUS SERPENTARIUS.* (2086.)

Bloemfontein and Ingogo. I saw several large nests of this species placed on low thorn-trees. The crop of the specimen shot contained lizards and locusts.

127. *GYPS KOLBII.* (2092.)

Common at Ingogo.

128. *IBIS ÆTHIOPICA.* (2098.)

Ingogo. A flock of these Ibises frequented a marsh near Volksrust. I lost the only skin that I procured.

129. *IBIS CALVA.* (2102.)

Ingogo. Very common in the vicinity of Volksrust, frequenting the sides of the roads and fields inside the lines.

130. *HAGEDASHIA HAGEDASH.* (2104.)

A few of these birds used to feed in some plantations of Australian wattles near Ingogo.

131. *HERODIAS BRACHYRHYNCHA.* (2114.)

I obtained a single specimen of this bird at Ingogo, but saw no others. "Iris and bill yellow; legs black."

132. *ARDEA MELANOCEPHALA.* (2121.)

Bloemfontein. There was a fine colony of this Heron breeding in some tall eucalyptus-trees at Fischer's Farm

near Bloemfontein. Iris straw-yellow ; legs grey ; bill grey ; bare space on the face grey, with a greenish patch in front of the eye.

133. *ARDEA CINEREA*. (2122.)

A small colony of the Common Heron was breeding at Wessel's Farm near Bloemfontein.

134. *NYCTICORAX GRISEUS*. (2127.)

Two pairs of the Night-Heron were seen at Bloemfontein and one bird at Ingogo.

135. *CICONIA ALBA*. (2136.)

I saw a single White Stork occasionally at Ingogo.

136. *CICONIA NIGRA*. (2137.)

Bloemfontein. Occasionally a pair of this species was seen and sometimes a single bird. On Sept. 30th I found a nest of the Black Stork with three eggs ; it was built on a rock projecting from the face of a low cliff on the top of a high kopje, a long way from any water. It was a very large shallow structure.

137. *SCOPUS UMBRETTA*. (2135.)

At Bloemfontein the nest of this bird was generally placed in the fork of a willow, and at Ingogo on the ledge of a rock. The bird was very common at both places.

138. *CHENALOPEX ÆGYPTIACUS*. (2261.)

One pair of these Geese nested at Wessel's Dam, Bloemfontein. I saw the young goslings towards the end of August.

139. *ANAS SPARSA*. (2267.)

Apparently rare. I shot one example of this bird on the Buffalo River, near Ingogo.

140. *PŒCILONETTA ERYTHORHYNCHA*. (2275.)

Occasionally a few pairs of these Ducks were seen, and once a very large flock on a good-sized dam.

141. *NYROCA BRUNNEA*. (2282.)

The specimen obtained was one of a pair shot by a brother officer near Bloemfontein, and I saw no others.

142. *PODICIPES CAPENSIS*. (2288.)

Ingogo and Bloemfontein.

143. *FULICA CRISTATA*. (2295.)

Bloemfontein. Iris dark brown; legs leaden coloured, with a green garter; bill whitish; forehead &c. white, with two chestnut-red knobs above.

144. *RALLUS CÆRULESCENS*. (2300.)

Only two examples of this Rail were met with, in long grass by a little stream near Ingogo. Legs horn-coloured; iris scarlet; rim of eye scarlet; bill—basal half magenta, tip horn-coloured.

145. *CREX PRATENSIS*. (2303.)

I obtained two examples of the Land-Rail near Ingogo.

146. *ORTYGOPS AYRESI*. (2314.)

Coturnicops ayresi Gurney, Ibis, 1871, p. 352, pl. vii.

Ortygops ayresi Sharpe, Cat. B. xxiii. p. 139.

The only specimen of this rare Rail obtained was found feeding on some floating weeds on a small dam near Bloemfontein on October 9th, 1901; I nearly passed it over, thinking that it was a young Coot. Iris black; legs dark brown with a greenish tinge; bill dark horn-coloured.

147. *TURNIX LEPURANA*. (2324.)

This bird occurs near Ingogo, singly or in pairs, in very high grass; although five inches of covert would serve to hide it, it prefers to live under five feet of grass. Iris straw-coloured; bill bluish grey; legs and feet flesh-coloured.

148. *COTURNIX CAPENSIS*. (2331.)

Apparently resident all the year at Bloemfontein and Ingogo. It is found in small numbers on arable ground.

149. *COTURNIX DELAGORGUII*. (2332.)

There was a considerable arrival of these Quails while I was at Ingogo; they stayed about six weeks. The white farmers said that in twenty years they had never seen the birds before. The Kaffirs stated that they always followed a war,

and they were evidently attracted by a weed which grew in the deserted mealie-patches—so perhaps there is some truth in the statement. In the late afternoon they resorted to the banks of the streams. On February 3rd, in two hours, twenty-two brace were killed by two guns.

150. *FRANCOLINUS AFRICANUS*. (2360.)

Examples of this Francolin from Bloemfontein had the back of the tarsus grey. The Natal specimens were all from the top of Inkwelo, 6800 feet (I saw no other coveys in Natal). The colour of the plumage was much duller than in the Bloemfontein birds. At Bloemfontein I found them only on the high kopjes, and much less abundant than *F. gariiepensis*.

151. *FRANCOLINUS LEVAILLANTI*. (2363.)

This Francolin was not abundant, but possibly it had been a bad breeding-season. It is a very difficult bird to flush: it seems to live in small coveys and always to keep to certain favourite spots; I generally found it on hill-sides some way below the tops.

152. *FRANCOLINUS GARIEPENSIS*. (2364.)

Generally distributed over the veldt and the bases of kopjes at Bloemfontein. The crop of one shot contained berries and a few beetles, that of another bulbs.

153. *NUMIDA CORONATA*. (2390.)

This Guinea-fowl is found in the Modder Bush, often in large flocks. It is very quick on its legs; it flies well, and can continue to do so for a considerable distance. Base of the bill and base of the bone on the head blood-red, remainder of both horn-coloured; crown to below eye blood-red, bare space round eye blue; wattles mauve, with the tips scarlet; neck deep rich blue with green reflexions; legs blackish slate-coloured; iris dark brown.

154. *PTEROCLES NAMAQUUS*. (2401.)

At Bloemfontein this Sand-Grouse appeared in July, often in flocks of many hundreds. In August, though the greater number were still in flocks, there were a few pairs breeding;

after September there were very few or none left. At Ingogo several appeared in May; I was informed by an old resident that he had never seen them before.

155. *AFROTIS AFROIDES*. (2415.)

Abundant on the veldt at Bloemfontein. The male is very noisy.

Male. Bill pink; nail horn-coloured; iris grey-brown; bare ear-space drab; legs yellow, nails horn-coloured.

Female. Bill yellow at base, remainder horn-coloured.

156. *HETEROTETRAX VIGORSI*. (2416.)

I saw only one cock and two hens of this Bustard at Bloemfontein; at Ingogo it was fairly common in summer.

157. *OTIS CÆRULESCENS*. (2428.)

Of this species also I saw only one cock and two hens on the veldt near Bloemfontein, and obtained one specimen.

158. *OTIS LUDWIGI*. (2419.)

There were a few of these Bustards round Ingogo in the summer, but they were very wild.

159. *HOPLOPTERUS SPECIOSUS*. (2452.)

Fairly common, at any rate in winter, near Bloemfontein. It is fond of irrigated ground. I have never seen it on the dry veldt, but always in muddy places. Bill and legs black; iris deep crimson.

160. *STEPHANIBYX CORONATUS*. (2453.)

Bloemfontein and Ingogo. Common, and very noisy when disturbed, especially at night. It is fond of dry short turf on the veldt. It is rather sluggish in the morning, and goes to water in the afternoon. I found three eggs of this Plover in September; they were laid on the bare ground, with no attempt at a nest. Legs scarlet; bill at base scarlet, tip black; iris yellow.

161. *STEPHANIBYX MELANOPTERUS*. (2454.)

A few of these Plovers appeared at Bloemfontein in May, and stayed about for six weeks. For Lapwings they are rather silent. They were common also at Ingogo in summer,

and some that I shot were so young that they had probably been bred there. Sometimes they consort with *S. coronatus*, but seem to be more attracted by manure-heaps than that species. Circle round the eye scarlet; legs deep crimson, shading into purple and black; beak black; iris dark brown.

162. *CHARADRIUS ASIATICUS*. (2463.)

Several small flocks of this Plover appeared on the bare veldt at Bloemfontein in November, some weeks after the other migratory waders.

163. *CHARADRIUS PECUARIUS*. (2467.)

These birds were very common by the dams at Bloemfontein. I frequently saw them in the early morning on bare stony ground far from water. They were nesting in August and September, laying two eggs in the mud by the side of the dams; they cover the eggs with bits of mud. Bill and legs black; iris dark brown.

164. *ÆGIALITIS TRICOLLARIS*. (2472.)

Common at Bloemfontein and Ingogo.

165. *TRINGA MINUTA*. (2481.)

Early in May I accidentally killed one of these Stints at Bloemfontein, while firing at some Ruffs. I did not notice the bird again till September, when it reappeared in some numbers, always keeping to the edges of the dams.

166. *PAVONCELLA PUGNAX*. (2484.)

Bloemfontein and Ingogo. There were some flocks of this bird about Bloemfontein in May. At the end of August they reappeared, and were extraordinarily numerous in September.

167. *TOTANUS CANESCENS*. (2489.)

Totanus nebularius, Shelley, B. Afr. i. p. 192.

There were a few of these birds on the dams at Bloemfontein all the winter, but a large arrival took place early in September.

168. *TOTANUS STAGNATILIS*. (2490.)

I saw this Sandpiper at Bloemfontein, sometimes singly,

sometimes in small flocks, but always near water, from September to November.

169. *TOTANUS GLAREOLA.* (2491.)

Common at Bloemfontein and Ingogo from October onwards; generally found singly.

170. *TOTANUS HYPOLEUCUS.* (2494.)

I saw single individuals of this species occasionally at Ingogo, on the banks of the swift mountain-streams, from January to March.

171. *RHYNCHÆA CAPENSIS.* (2501.)

The only specimen obtained rose from some rough grass at the edge of a flooded hollow near Ingogo.

172. *ŒDICNEMUS CAPENSIS.* (2511.)

This Thick-knee is sparingly distributed at Bloemfontein and Ingogo.

173. *CURSORIUS RUFUS.* (2516.)

Common, generally in pairs, sometimes in small flocks, at Bloemfontein and Ingogo. It prefers the close-grazed and burnt ground. Two eggs are laid early in August on the bare ground, though sometimes a few shreds of dry dung are arranged round them. I found eggs again in October. This bird is excellent eating.

174. *CURSORIUS TEMMINCKI.* (2517.)

Not uncommon at Ingogo, though not so numerous as *C. rufus*.

175. *RHINOPTILUS BICINCTUS.* (2518.)

Very tame at Bloemfontein, frequenting the close-grazed turf. A specimen which I opened had gorged itself with ants. This bird lays a single egg on the bare ground in the latter half of July, and when sitting will defend itself with great courage. I also found eggs in October.

176. *GLAREOLA MELANOPTERA.* (2526.)

Bloemfontein and Ingogo. This Pratincole appeared in November: apparently most of the specimens were then immature. It was also common at Ingogo.